

## LAST STAGES OF FIGHT OVER OVERMAN BILL

Leaders Confident if Senate  
Passes Measure House Will  
Promptly Ratify.

(International News Service.)  
Washington, April 27.—The senate today was in the final stages of the long fight over the Overman bill granting the president unprecedented powers to reconstruct America's war management.

The contest today revolved around the amendment exempting the interstate commerce commission and the federal reserve board from the application of the bill. Senators were limited to speeches of twenty minutes each on the amendment. As soon as this amendment is disposed of, practically nothing, except possibly the desire of a few senators to say a final word on the bill, will stand in the way of a recall on the measure. Perhaps a final vote may be reached today. It is more likely, however, that conclusive action will be put off until Monday.

The senate was pleased today over the administration's tentative acceptance of the Wadsworth amendment authorizing the president to centralize responsibility for the production of aircraft in one executive agency. The amendment, if carried into effect, would remove what many senators believe has been the underlying cause of America's inability to produce aircraft equipment to schedule—divided authority, divided responsibility. It would give the agency having charge of aircraft production the broadest powers and make it directly responsible to the president.

If the Overman bill passes the senate, as it certainly will if amendments are adopted, administration leaders anticipate no difficulty in putting it through the house. When the measure becomes a law, it will in effect pool all the powers of the executive departments and administrative branches of the government under the administration to distribute in any way he sees fit to bring about higher efficiency.

Although the measure would permit the most drastic shake-up of the American government has seen since its foundation, the administration to date has carefully refrained from disclosing its plans. Congress does not know what the president will do with the bill after he gets it, in fact. According to some of his supporters in congress, he only wants to have the measure around handy, like the old hickory stick behind the kitchen door, ready for any emergency that may require governmental reorganization during the war.

## DEATH GERMAN LANGUAGE WILL ENRICH AMERICA

"It Will Be Worth Billions," Declared  
Charles S. Hamlin, Member of  
Federal Reserve Board.

Atlanta, Ga., April 27.—"When the German language is dead, America will be billions richer than she is today," Charles S. Hamlin, member of the federal reserve bank board, declared in an address yesterday in which he urged people to "forget hard times and buy liberty bonds." Mr. Hamlin spoke at a patriotic mass meeting and in his address paid high tribute to the women of the nation for their efforts in behalf of the liberty loans.

After telling something of the nation's wealth, Mr. Hamlin said: "It is foolish for people to talk about business as usual. Instead of the motto, 'let us eat, drink and be merry, for tomorrow we shall die,' our motto

## CASUALTIES IN BRITISH RANKS TOTAL 18,369.

(Associated Press.)  
London, April 27.—Casualties in British ranks reported this week totalled 18,369. The losses were divided as follows: Killed or died of wounds, officers, 408; men, 2,661; wounded or missing, officers, 2,071; men, 13,229.

## RIDER IN NAVAL BILL CAUSES DISCUSSION

Problem of Dealing With Labor  
During War Crops Out  
Again in Congress.

(International News Service.)  
Washington, April 27.—The problem of dealing with labor during the war cropped out again in congress today. This time the naval affairs committee of the senate has the question on its hands.

Provision is made in a rider attached to the naval appropriation bill, which prohibits the use of time clock tests and other efficiency tests, as well as bonuses, by all manufacturers engaged in work for the navy department.

Labor is strongly supporting the measure and taking a stand in opposition to the methods generally used to speed up workers by those who make theoretical industrial studies. The stand is taken by labor that these methods are of a nature which is not in the spirit of democracy and it forces men to work under a pressure which is not of advantage to their health. It is also argued by labor representatives that these tests are often destructive to workmanship and sometimes the best workmen are unable to hold positions because they fail to measure up to standards which are based altogether on theories.

Manufacturers and industrial leaders are bitterly opposed to the rider in the naval appropriations bill. They maintain that it will work to the disadvantage of production. The provision, which also precludes bonuses for workmen, is also opposed by manufacturers. Provisions are made for bonuses for ideas, but the bonus given to workmen for maximum production is prohibited. Manufacturers claim that this will slacken output in many factories.

The use of so-called efficiency methods in government work has been an issue in congress before. It now comes up as a war measure, however, and officials of the naval affairs committee find themselves with a most delicate problem on their hands. It is probable that the committee will allow the issue to be fought out on the floor.

## TENNESSEE WEATHER FAIR AND COOL NEXT WEEK

(Associated Press.)  
Washington, April 27.—Showers the first of the week, with temperature above normal, and again the last of the week, are forecast for the south Atlantic and east gulf states for the week beginning tomorrow. In Tennessee the weather will be fair and cool the first of the week, and warmer with showers Friday or Saturday.

## BRIDGEPORT'S NEW BANK OPENS FOR BUSINESS

Deposits Run Up to \$50,000  
First Day—Indications  
Portend Prosperity.

(Special to The News.)

Bridgeport, Ala., April 27.—Bridgeport's new bank, the American National, with a capital stock and surplus of \$30,000, opened its doors for business Monday morning with a rush of business at the beginning. The deposits the first day amounted to nearly \$50,000, and have been coming steadily ever since, which is sufficient evidence that the people appreciate the new institution and have confidence in the ability and integrity of its official roster, which is as follows: R. L. Stephenson, president; R. A. McFarlane, vice-president; J. J. Williams, vice-president; F. W. Carr, cashier.

Among the directors are some of the best business men of Bridgeport, and the success of the institution seems fully assured.

## DADE COUNTY GOES OVER TOP IN RUSH

(Special to The News.)  
Trenton, Ga., April 27.—Dade county has gone "over the top" in the sale of liberty bonds. Chairman Martin G. Smith announces. With a population of only 5,000 people, and an estimated bank deposit of \$150,000, Dade county has assessed \$15,000 as her share of the liberty bonds, which amount has been sold very easily to the patriotic citizens.

With eleven days yet to pass before the campaign closes, Chairman Smith feels sure that he can sell at least \$50,000 more.

## Germany's Losses Placed at Two Million to Date

(Associated Press.)  
Amsterdam, Friday, April 26.—Germany's losses thus far in the war have been 2,000,000 men, according to a statement credited by the Frankfurter Zeitung as having been made by Gen. Schulze before the main committee of the German reichstag.

Sick and wounded men to the number of 750,000 had been able to return to the front, according to Gen. Schulze, while 628,000 had been discharged as unfit for service, including 70,000 cripples.

Up to date, the general added, Germany had to reckon with about 98,000 cripples.

## NEW CHARGES AGAINST HELMUTH SCHMIDT

Accused of Making Sketches of Fortifications in New York Harbor and Having Them in His Possession.

Detroit, Mich., April 27.—An accusation that Helmut Schmidt was an agent of the German government and had spent some time making sketches of fortifications in New York harbor was the latest development Friday in the case of the man who killed himself in jail last Tuesday after being arrested for murder in connection with the disappearance of a girl who answered a matrimonial advertisement he inserted in a New York paper.

Mrs. Adele Ulrich Braun, who said Schmidt was married to her in Lake-

wood, N. J., in 1914, as "Emil Braun," made the accusation in a statement to officials working on the case. She came here to claim the body of the man who, shortly before his suicide, told the police that Augusta Steinbach, of New York, who came here a year ago in answer to his advertisement for a wife, killed herself when she learned he already was married.

Mrs. Braun said she also met Schmidt through a matrimonial advertisement and charged that after they were married Schmidt took from her \$3,500, as well as several hundred dollars' worth of jewelry. Schmidt, she said, then disappeared.

No trace has yet been found by the police of Irma Pallatinus, who, they say, came here from Lakewood, N. J., as his housekeeper and disappeared while in his employ. Detectives yesterday began examinations at the house where Schmidt lived shortly after coming here. Cut into the brick wall of the basement they found the words, "Wife and child innocent."

## OPPORTUNITY SCHOOL OPENED IN DENVER

Men Liable for Military Service  
Offered Choice of Wide  
Course of Subjects.

(Associated Press.)  
Denver, Colo., April 22.—(Correspondence Associated Press.)—Education of men liable for military service under the selective draft has been undertaken by the "opportunity school" conducted by the city of Denver. It is believed here that this is the first school in the country to offer such a service. With a total enrollment of 3,000 pupils in less than a year and a half, the school is now accepting subjects taught, the institution is considered out of the ordinary.

Persons of all ages are admitted. A pupil may enter at any time, take any or all the subjects he wishes, devote as much time as he desires to his studies and choose the hour of classes, for the school is open from 8:30 a.m. until 9:15 p.m.

Its activities cover a wide range, from an employment bureau conducted by pupils to training in aviation by means of the school's own airplane. In all its departments there is a long waiting list of applicants for training. In the automobile mechanic department 600 men have enrolled, many of them being in the next draft. They are preparing to be more efficient workers "over there."

From Worn-Out Clothing.

The women pupils have devoted one afternoon a week to making baby clothes for the war effort. Already 5,000 garments have gone to France, Belgium and Italy. It is a woman, Miss Emily Griffith, who is in charge of the school, although it was made possible by City Superintendent of Schools Carlos M. Cole.

Leut. William Robert Russell conducts the large classes in aviation and radio work for enlisted and drafted men. From this class there are now 125 men in wireless positions for the government.

The school has 24 stars in its service flag for those who have given military service, and they cover many nationalities. Many of these, in fact, are citizens the school has made through its citizenship class, which has prepared 600 men to take out naturalization papers. This class recently sent \$100 to the Red Cross. Twenty nationalities attend the school at present.

The school is democratic. It provides training for the energetic person anxious to get ahead; the discouraged one trying to get into line again; the man who missed his schooling; the educated taking some special training to further fit them; the working boy and the working girl who come at odd times, and in fact all shades and degrees of both rich and poor. Officers, sergeants and privates make lists at the same table.

Among its results are the machinist who doubled his wages after his drafting course; the young man who measured muslin for ten years until he hated his job and is now a bookbinder and happy; the drifting boy who found himself in the class in railroad telegraphy and quit the poolrooms.

## BELIEVE DECK OFFICERS FLORENCE H. WERE LOST

(Associated Press.)  
New York, April 27.—Capt. F. J. Butterfield and all the deck officers of the American steamship Florence H. now are believed to have lost their lives when that ship was destroyed by an explosion April 17, while off the French coast. A list of survivors received here yesterday by cable from the American consul at Brest does not contain their names. It also is shown that only two of the engineer room officers escaped uninjured, the others being reported as badly burned.

## VISCOUNT KIKUJIRI ISHII HAS ARRIVED IN WASHINGTON

Washington, April 27.—Viscount Kikujiri Ishii, the new Japanese ambassador to the United States, arrived in Washington yesterday, accompanied by the Countess Ishii and a staff of secretaries. He succeeds former Ambassador Sato, who returned to Japan several months ago. Viscount Ishii, formerly ambassador to France, already is well known in Washington. Soon after the United States entered the war he came here as ambassador on a special mission and the visit was notable because of the agreement between the United States and Japan regarding China, which he negotiated with Secretary Lansing.

## WON VICTORIA CROSS

London, March 26.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press.)—How Seret. William Grimbaldeston, of the king's own Scottish borders, caused armed only with one bomb, captured thirty-six Germans with six machine guns and trench mortar, and thereby won the Victoria cross, is thus told in an official narrative.

"During the course of an attack. Seret. Grimbaldeston noticed that the advance of the battalion on his left was being checked by heavy machine gun fire from a large blockhouse. He at once collected four rifle grenadiers and instructed them to open as rapid a fire as possible on the blockhouse, thus assisting one of our trench mortar batteries, which was also concentrating on the same target.

"The ground between him and the blockhouse was open and entirely devoid of cover. In spite of this he made his way across it in a series of rushes, followed closely by his small band of riflemen.

"Under a hail of bullets from the enemy machine guns, and armed with only one hand grenade, he worked his way round to the entrance at the rear of the blockhouse. With this solitary weapon he suddenly appeared in the midst of the enemy, and persuaded each gun team in turn to lay down its arms.

"It is reported that thirty-six Germans, with their six machine guns and a trench mortar, surrendered to one British soldier and a bomb. By his bravery and initiative he was thus responsible for the capture of this stronghold, with its defenders, and at the same time prevented what threatened to become a critical situation."

## FORTRESSES REGARDED IMPREGNABLE SMASHED

Press Eulogizes Gun Used in  
Bombarding Paris.

(Associated Press.)

New York, April 27.—The German people are informed that the long-range guns now bombarding Paris marks "the greatest progress in the development of firearms since the invention of powder," in an eulogistic article sent out by the official Wolff bureau and published in the German newspapers under a Berlin date of March 18.

The Wolff dispatch follows: "In vain our enemies are racking their brains to solve the secret of our giant cannon with which we are bombarding Paris. They believe they have found the solution in an Austrian long barrel cannon.

"In view of the reports it must be stated that for this latest war weapon which, with its long-range and accuracy of aim represents the greatest progress in the development of firearms since the invention of powder, we have to thank solely German science, German technique and German industry."

The Cologne Gazette of March 31, a copy of which has been received here, in an article headed "The 120-Kilometer Cannon," says:

Fortresses Smashed.

"The 42-centimeter mortars in August, 1914, smashed fortresses which until then had been considered as modern and impregnable. At that moment there began a new period of the construction of fortresses.

"March 31, 1918, brought the technical wonder of the 120-kilometer cannon and with it the beginning of a new era in the history of the construction of cannon, which, however, may be of far greater importance on the course of the war, and perhaps, for peace, than the 42-centimeter mortars.

"Now that the possibility of such technical achievement has been demonstrated there will not be much to prevent the great belligerent nations from manufacturing such cannon. Of course, such giant cannon will be the exception in artillery equipment, for they are expensive, heavy and probably may be used only for a limited number of shots."

## \$40,000 PLEDGED TO CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Atlanta, Ga., April 27.—Delegates from five southern states representing the Men and Million movement of the Christian church, met here yesterday and pledged \$40,000 in support of the church's campaign for funds for its various organizations. More than thirty delegates from each state attended the

meeting. Subscriptions pledged by the state delegations follow: Georgia, \$15,000; Florida, \$7,500; Alabama, \$7,500; Mississippi, \$5,000; and Louisiana, \$5,000.

It was announced after the meeting that the immediate campaign is for the purpose of raising \$2,497,000 for the church.

## OWNERS OF SHEEP NOW HAVING THEIR INNING

Never Before Reaped Such  
Profits—Convention of  
Breeders Today.

(Special to The News.)

Nashville, April 26.—Of vital interest to the sheep growing interest in Tennessee is the state convention of breeders and producers to be held at the capitol in this city on next Tuesday morning at 11 o'clock. It is expected that representatives from at least half of the counties of the state will attend this convention at which an organization will be formed to stimulate in every way possible the production of sheep and wool in Tennessee.

Never in the history of the nation have the growers of sheep reaped the profits that they are getting today, and yet, remarkable though it may seem, it is nevertheless a fact that the stock of sheep in the state has decreased as the prices for lambs and wool have increased. A farmer now gets as much for his wool clip from a ewe as formerly he received for a lamb.

At the convention next Monday addresses will be delivered by Dr. H. A. Morgan, federal food administrator; Commissioner H. Knox Bryson, of the department of agriculture, and Maj. Rutledge Smith, chairman of the Council of Defense.

## PLAN TO DEPOSE EMPEROR CHARLES

(International News Service.)

London, April 27.—An Amsterdam dispatch to the Express today said it was reliably understood there that plans to depose Emperor Charles of Austria-Hungary were discussed at recent meetings of the Austro-Hungarian noblemen.

The reasons for such action was the letter written by the emperor to Prince Sixtus (suggesting a separate peace). The result of the situation is that Germany now has a firmer grip on Austria.

## RHEA COUNTY SHIPS ITS FIRST CAR STRAWBERRIES

(Special to The News.)  
Dayton, April 27.—The first car load of strawberries from Rhea county was shipped today by Hayes & Keith.

## DISCOMFITED GERMANS SEE HUGE GUN DAMAGED

French Gunners Wreck "Big Bertha" Beyond Repair  
Aviators Describe Piercing of Camouflage.

(Associated Press.)

Paris, April 27.—A description of the destruction by French artillery of one of the long-range cannon with which the Germans have been bombarding Paris is published today by the Petit Parisien. "All the signs that Bertha (a French nickname for the big German gun referring to Bertha Krupp) was going to fire had been noticed. The smoke curtain had gone up. All around there was a chorus of loud reports. Undoubtedly, Bertha and 200 or 300 50-millimetre naval guns were all firing simultaneously to disguise the whereabouts of the big cannon.

"After a short pause, the firing was resumed. This time ten naval guns supplied the obligato. French observers saw the smoke of the big gun, and French guns opened fire in their turn. The aviators signaled quickly that the result of the first salvo was most promising. Two heavy shells exploded 250 yards north of the big gun, tearing up the railroad tracks leading to the concrete gun platform. The firing was continued, getting closer and closer, until finally two enormous shells went through the camouflage. Two formidable explosions were heard, and the discomfited Germans saw Bertha damaged beyond repair, with a rent fifty feet long in the barrel. The aviators reported that they could see plainly through the camouflage two gaping craters in the platform."

"French gunners than set about preparing to destroy the third Bertha, but thus far have not succeeded, for shells arrived in Paris again during the small hours of the night."

## LIEUT. BARROW, OF GEORGIA, DECORATED FOR BRAVERY

Atlanta, Ga., April 27.—First Lieut. Thomas A. Barrow, of Pelham, Ga., attached to the field artillery service with the American expeditionary forces in France, has been decorated with the war cross for bravery under fire, according to information received by relatives here. Lieut. Barrow, according to information received by his relatives, was on observation duty in a captive balloon with French officers. While figuring artillery data for allied artillery the balloon was attacked by the enemy and pierced eighty times. Barrow continued at his post, nevertheless, and later landed safely in a parachute.

Barrow received his commission upon completion of the course of training in the first reserve officers' training camp at Fort McPherson, Ga., last summer.



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